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8 August 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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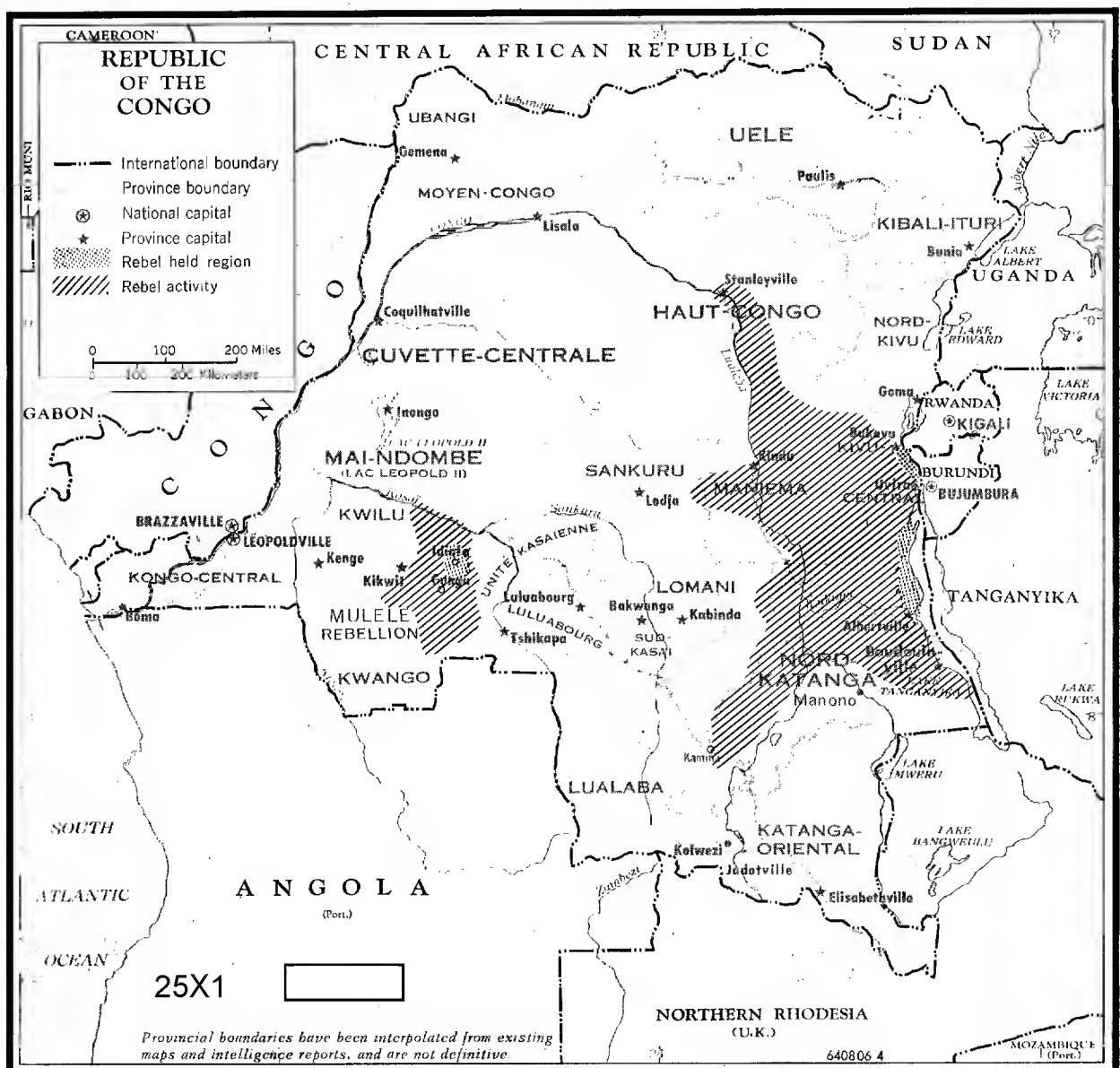
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Belgium-Congo: The Belgians are opposed to intervening militarily in the Congo on a unilateral basis.

Foreign Minister Spaak told Ambassador Mac-Arthur this week that direct Belgian military intervention in the Congo was out of the question. Several Belgian businessmen, who have a large stake in the Congo, have expressed similar sentiments, although they feel that Belgium should participate in any multinational effort that might be attempted to restore order in the Congo.

Ambassador Godley in Leopoldville suggests that Tshombé's 6 August request to the French for military assistance might be "just the needle to excite the Belgians into a more active role."

The West German chargé in Leopoldville believes that a total collapse in the Congo can be avoided only through direct military intervention by the West. Speaking personally, he suggested that this might be done by a force drawn from NATO countries.

The military situation in the Congo remains serious. Although government forces are making un-coordinated attacks into the southern half of the area of rebel activity, insurgents appear to be consolidating in Stanleyville and may be moving further into Sankuru Province. Preparations apparently are under way to transfer Tshombé's 3,000 gendarmes camped in Angola back to Katanga, but this force reportedly is neither armed nor organized into military units.

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NOTES

British Guiana: A former member of Cheddi Jagan's People's Progressive Party (PPP) reportedly will announce tomorrow the formation of a rival East Indian political party to be known as the Justice Party. Balram Singh Rai, a member of the local legislature who was expelled from the PPP in 1962, is said to have already lined up a number of candidates to run in the elections scheduled for next fall. Rai may hope to profit from what appears to be the growing disenchantment of the East Indians with Jagan.

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